


MEMORANDUM

DATE	July 26, 2017
TO	Board of Psychology
FROM	 Cherise Burns Central Services Manager
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #5(b)(2)(D) – AB 148 (Mathis) California Physician Corps Program: Practice Setting

Background:

Existing law establishes the Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program in the California Physician Corps Program within the Health Professions Education Foundation, which provides financial incentives, including repayment of educational loans, to a physician and surgeon who practices in a medically underserved area. Existing law defines "practice setting," for these purposes, to include a community clinic, a clinic owned or operated by a public hospital and health system, or a clinic owned and operated by a hospital that maintains the primary contract with a county government to fulfill the county's role to serve its indigent population. This bill would instead require that the clinic or the physician owned and operated medical practice setting serve at least 30 percent of patients, if the area is rural, or at least 50 percent of patients, if the area is urban, who are indigent. The new lower limit for rural participants would apply to participants who enroll in the program on or after January 1, 2018. This bill would also require the foundation to report to the legislature on the effects of these changes to the loan repayment program.

Location: Senate Committee on Appropriations

Status: 7/17/2017 Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Senate Committee on Appropriations

Votes: 7/12/2017 Senate Committee on Health (8-0-1)
 4/20/2017 Assembly Floor (74-0-6)
 4/5/2017 Assembly Committee on Appropriations (17-0-0)
 3/21/2017 Assembly Committee on Health (15-0-0)

Action Requested:

No action is required at this time. Staff will continue to watch AB 148 (Mathis) for potential impacts on other Health Professions Education Foundation programs.